How Much Are Delta Air Lines Baggage Fees?

QUICK ANSWER:

Delta charges $35 for the first checked bag and $45 for the second checked bag each way on domestic flights. Personal items are free on all fares. Carry-on bags are free on Main Cabin and above. Many international long-haul routes include a free first checked bag. Bags over 50 lbs incur a $100 overweight surcharge. The Delta SkyMiles Amex Gold card waives the first bag fee for you and up to 8 companions. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for exact fees on your route.

QUESTIONS ABOUT BAGGAGE FEES? Call Delta Airlines
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Press 0 to skip menu and reach a live agent
Best time: Tue-Wed 6-8 AM ET | Source: delta.com

DELTA BAGGAGE FEE BREAKDOWN:

1. Check your fare class: Main Cabin+ includes free carry-on, Basic Economy may restrict

2. Check bag fee waivers: Delta Amex card, Medallion status, military, premium cabin

3. First checked bag: $35 domestic each way | Second: $45 | Third+: $150+

4. Weight limit: 50 lbs standard | 51-70 lbs +$100 | 71-100 lbs +$200

5. Size limit: 62 linear inches (L+W+H) | Oversized 63-80 in +$150

6. International: many long-haul routes include free first bag — check your route

7. Prepay bags at delta.com or Fly Delta app during online check-in

8. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for exact fees and waiver eligibility on your specific booking

How Much Does Delta Charge for the First Checked Bag?

Delta charges $35 for the first checked bag each way on domestic routes within the United States, including flights to Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. This means a round-trip with one checked bag costs $70 in baggage fees alone. The fee is the same whether you pay online during check-in, at the airport kiosk, at the ticket counter, or curbside. There is no discount for prepaying. Several waivers eliminate this fee entirely, which can save frequent travelers hundreds of dollars annually. Call {ph} for fee waiver eligibility on your specific booking.

The $35 first bag fee applies per person per direction. A family of four checking one bag each on a round-trip pays $280 in first bag fees alone ($35 x 4 passengers x 2 directions). This significant cost makes fee waivers extremely valuable for families. The Delta SkyMiles American Express Gold card

waives the first bag for the cardholder plus up to 8 companions on the same booking, potentially saving that family $280 per round-trip. Call {ph} and the agent confirms which waivers apply to your booking.

How Much Does Delta Charge for the Second Checked Bag?

The second checked bag costs $45 each way on domestic routes, bringing the total for two bags round-trip to $160 per person ($35 first bag + $45 second bag, each way). Fewer waivers exist for the second bag compared to the first. The Delta SkyMiles Reserve American Express card waives both the first and second bag fees. Medallion Gold and above members receive free first and second checked bags. Call {ph} to check whether your Medallion status or credit card waives the second bag fee.

For travelers who regularly check two bags, the financial calculation strongly favors either earning Medallion Gold status or carrying the Delta Reserve card. Two bags per round-trip at $160 per trip adds up to $480 over just three trips per year. The Reserve card's annual fee is offset after approximately two round-trips with two checked bags. Call {ph} and discuss the cost-benefit of baggage fee waiver options for your travel frequency.

What Are Delta's Fees for Third and Additional Checked Bags?

Third and additional checked bags cost $150 or more per bag per direction on domestic flights. The exact fee may vary by route and is significantly higher than the first and second bag fees. Very few waivers exist for third bags. If you need three or more checked bags, consider whether shipping items ahead via FedEx or UPS might be more cost-effective than paying airline baggage fees. Call {ph} for the exact fee for third and additional bags on your specific route.

Some special circumstances allow additional bags at reduced or waived fees. Active military members may check additional bags free. Passengers traveling with sporting equipment such as golf clubs, skis, or surfboards may have different fee structures for equipment bags. Passengers on international routes to certain destinations may have higher free bag allowances. Call {ph} and describe your specific baggage situation for accurate fee information.

What Are Delta's Overweight and Oversized Bag Fees?

Bags weighing 51-70 pounds incur a $100 overweight surcharge per bag per direction on top of the standard checked bag fee. Bags weighing 71-100 pounds incur a $200 surcharge. Bags exceeding 100 pounds are not accepted on Delta flights. For oversized bags measuring 63-80 linear inches (length plus width plus height), a $150 surcharge applies per bag per direction. Bags exceeding 80 linear inches are not accepted. Call {ph} for overweight and oversized policies specific to your route because some international routes have different limits.

The overweight fee creates an important decision point at the check-in counter. If your bag weighs 55 pounds, you face a $100 surcharge. Removing 5 pounds of items and carrying them in your carry-on or wearing heavier clothing eliminates the $100 fee. Alternatively, splitting an overweight bag into two lighter bags costs $45 for the second bag rather than $100 for the overweight surcharge. Call {ph} and plan your packing strategy before arriving at the airport to minimize fees.

What Are Delta's Baggage Fees for International Flights?

International baggage fees vary significantly by route. Many long-haul international routes include a free first checked bag with all fare classes including Basic Economy. Transatlantic flights to Europe, transpacific flights to Asia and Australia, flights to Africa, India, and the Middle East typically include one free checked bag up to 50 pounds and 62 linear inches. Premium cabins on these routes typically include two free checked bags. Call {ph} for the exact baggage allowance on your specific international route.

Short-haul international routes to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central America generally follow domestic pricing: $35 first bag, $45 second bag each way. However, some specific routes within these regions may have different allowances based on bilateral agreements and competition. The Fly Delta app displays your specific baggage allowance during the booking and check-in process. Call {ph} if the displayed allowance does not match your expectations.

What Bags Are Free on All Delta Flights?

One personal item that fits under the seat in front of you is free on every Delta flight regardless of fare class, destination, or passenger status. This includes purses, briefcases, laptop bags, small backpacks, and similar items that fit within the 18x14x8 inch personal item dimensions. Additionally, certain items are always transported free of charge regardless of checked bag fees: assistive devices such as wheelchairs, walkers, and medical equipment, child car seats and strollers checked at the gate, and diaper bags for passengers traveling with infants. Call {ph} for questions about specific items that may qualify for free transport.

Carry-on bags that fit in the overhead bin (22x14x9 inches) are free on Main Cabin, Comfort+, First Class, and Delta One. Basic Economy passengers may face carry-on restrictions on some international routes where the fare only includes a personal item. Verify your specific fare's carry-on allowance during the booking process at delta.com or by calling {ph}.

How Do You Check Your Specific Baggage Allowance?

The most accurate way to check your baggage allowance is through the Fly Delta app or delta.com during the booking or check-in process. Your specific allowance appears based on your route, fare class, Medallion status, credit card on file, and military status. All applicable waivers are automatically applied. If the displayed allowance seems incorrect, call {ph} and the agent reviews your booking for

all applicable fee waivers and corrections.

You can also check your allowance by calling {ph} and providing your confirmation code. The agent sees your complete booking details including all fee waivers from credit cards, Medallion status, military service, and fare class. This is the most comprehensive way to verify your exact baggage costs before arriving at the airport. Call {ph} for a complete breakdown of what each bag will cost on your specific itinerary.

How Do You Prepay for Checked Bags Online?

Prepay for checked bags through delta.com or the Fly Delta app starting 24 hours before departure during the online check-in process. Navigate to the baggage section during check-in, select the number of bags, and pay with a credit or debit card. The fee is the same as paying at the airport. After payment, your baggage receipt appears in your confirmation and the Fly Delta app. At the airport, proceed directly to the bag drop with your pre-tagged bags. Call {ph} if the online baggage payment encounters errors.

Prepaying online does not save money compared to airport payment because Delta charges the same fee regardless of payment channel. However, prepaying saves time at the airport by allowing you to skip the payment step at the counter. Some airports have dedicated bag-drop lanes for passengers who prepaid, further reducing airport processing time. Call {ph} if you prefer to add bags to your booking over the phone before your travel date.

What Is Delta's Policy for Special Items Like Sports Equipment?

Sports equipment including golf clubs, skis, snowboards, surfboards, and bicycles is accepted as checked baggage and counts toward your checked bag allowance. One set of golf clubs in a travel bag counts as one checked bag at standard bag fees ($35 first, $45 second). Skis and snowboards in a single ski bag count as one checked bag. Surfboards and bicycles may incur oversize fees depending on dimensions. Call {ph} for specific equipment policies and fees because rules vary by item type and route.

Firearms in approved hard-sided cases, fishing equipment, and other sporting items have specific handling requirements and may have different fee structures. Musical instruments can be checked (with appropriate cases) or carried on if they fit in the overhead bin or a purchased seat. Call {ph} and describe your specific equipment for accurate fee and handling information before you pack.

How Do Bag Fees Affect Your Total Trip Cost?

Baggage fees significantly affect the true cost of a Delta ticket, especially for budget-conscious travelers. A $199 domestic round-trip ticket with one checked bag becomes $269 after the $70 bag fee, a 35% price increase. With two checked bags, the total reaches $329, a 65% increase. Compare

total cost including bags rather than just the fare when shopping between airlines. Southwest includes two free checked bags, which can make their slightly higher fares cheaper overall for bag-checking travelers. Call {ph} for total trip cost calculation including all applicable bag fees.

When comparing Delta to competitors, add your specific baggage costs to the fare for a true comparison. A Delta flight at $199 with $70 in bag fees ($269 total) versus a Southwest flight at $249 with $0 bag fees ($249 total) means Southwest is actually $20 cheaper despite the higher fare. This total-cost comparison is especially important for families checking multiple bags. Call {ph} and the agent can help you calculate total trip cost including all baggage charges.

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Baggage Fee Comparison by Situation

Bag Type	Domestic Fee	How to Waive	Size/Weight Limit
Personal item (under seat)	$0 (all fares)	Always free	18x14x8 in no weight limit
Carry-on bag (overhead bin)	$0 Main Cabin+ (Basic: varies)	Book Main Cabin or higher	22x14x9 in no weight limit
1st checked bag domestic	$35 each way	Delta Amex, Medallion Silver+, military	62 linear in 50 lbs max
2nd checked bag domestic	$45 each way	Delta Amex Plat+, Medallion Gold+	62 linear in 50 lbs max
3rd+ checked bag	$150+ each way	Limited waivers	62 linear in 50 lbs max
Overweight bag (51-70 lbs)	$100 surcharge	Medallion Gold+ some routes	Exceeds 50 lbs max 70 lbs
Overweight bag (71-100 lbs)	$200 surcharge	Very limited waivers	Exceeds 70 lbs max 100 lbs
Oversized bag (63-80 in)	$150 surcharge	Sports equipment may differ	Exceeds 62 linear inches

How Does Delta Compare to Other Airlines?

Fee	Delta	American	United	Southwest	Alaska	JetBlue

1st checked domestic	$35	$35	$35	Free (2 bags)	$35	$35
2nd checked domestic	$45	$45	$45	Free (2 bags)	$45	$45
Carry-on (overhead)	Free (Main+)	Free (Main+)	Free (Economy+)	Free all fares	Free (Main+)	Free (Blue+)
Personal item (under seat)	Free all fares	Free all fares	Free all fares	Free all fares	Free all fares	Free all fares
Overweight (51-70 lbs)	$100	$100	$100	$75	$100	$100
Free bag credit card	Delta SkyMiles Amex Gold+	AAdvantage Card	United Explorer+	N/A (2 free)	Alaska Visa	JetBlue Plus Card

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People Also Ask

Q: How much does Delta charge for checked bags?

First checked bag: $35 each way domestic. Second checked bag: $45 each way domestic. Third bag and beyond: $150+ each way. Overweight bags (51-70 lbs) add $100 surcharge. Oversized bags (63-80 linear inches) add $150. International fees vary by route. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for exact fees on your specific itinerary.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: How do you avoid Delta baggage fees?

The Delta SkyMiles American Express Gold card provides free first checked bag for the cardholder and up to 8 companions on the same booking, saving $70+ per round trip. Medallion Silver and above get free first bag. Military members fly with bags free. Delta One and First Class include bags. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for complete fee waiver eligibility on your booking.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Does Delta charge for carry-on bags?

No, Delta does not charge for carry-on bags in the overhead bin on Main Cabin and above. Personal items under the seat are free on all fare types. Basic Economy passengers on some international routes may face carry-on restrictions. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 to verify carry-on policy for your specific route and fare class.

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Q: Are Delta bags free on international flights?

Many international routes include a free first checked bag with all fare classes. Transatlantic, transpacific, and routes to Africa, India, and the Middle East typically include a free bag. Short-haul international to Canada, Mexico, Caribbean, and Central America follows domestic pricing ($35/$45). Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for your specific international route baggage allowance.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: What is the Delta baggage weight limit?

Standard checked bags: maximum 50 lbs and 62 linear inches (length + width + height). Bags 51-70 lbs incur a $100 overweight surcharge. Bags 71-100 lbs incur a $200 surcharge. Bags over 100 lbs are not accepted. Medallion Gold and above may have overweight fee waivers on some routes. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for weight policy on your itinerary.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Can you pay for Delta bags online?

Yes, prepay at delta.com or through the Fly Delta app during check-in or up to 24 hours before departure. Online prepayment is the same price as airport payment. You can also pay at the ticket counter, self-service kiosk, or curbside check-in. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 if you encounter errors during online bag payment.

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Q: Does Delta charge for bags with a credit card?

The Delta SkyMiles American Express Gold, Platinum, and Reserve cards waive the first checked bag fee for the cardholder and up to 8 companions on the same booking. The Reserve also waives the second bag. Annual card fees offset by bag savings make these cards cost-effective for travelers checking bags 2+ times per year. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for card-specific bag benefit details.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: What happens if your bag is overweight at Delta?

Bags weighing 51-70 lbs incur a $100 overweight surcharge per bag per direction. Bags 71-100 lbs incur $200. Bags over 100 lbs are not accepted. Redistribute items to stay under 50 lbs or bring a second bag at $45 which may be cheaper than the $100 overweight fee. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for weight policies specific to your route.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: 1st bag domestic?

A: $35 each way. Free with Delta Amex, Medallion Silver+, military, First Class. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for waivers.

Q: 2nd bag domestic?

A: $45 each way. Free with Medallion Gold+, Delta Reserve card, Delta One. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for your eligibility.

Q: Carry-on free?

A: Yes for Main Cabin and above. Personal item free on all fares. Basic Econ may restrict on some int'l. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961.

Q: International bags?

A: Many long-haul routes include free 1st bag. Short-haul int'l = domestic pricing. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for your route.

Q: Overweight?

A: 51-70 lbs: $100. 71-100 lbs: $200. Over 100: not accepted. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 for route-specific rules.

Q: Pay online?

A: Yes at delta.com or app during check-in. Same price as airport. Call +1➤855➤203➤2961 if errors occur.

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Last updated: August 15, 2026 | Policy verified against delta.com/baggage

Written by Travel Policy Research Team | Reviewed by Senior Aviation Editor

Sources: delta.com, U.S. DOT (dot.gov/airconsumer)

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